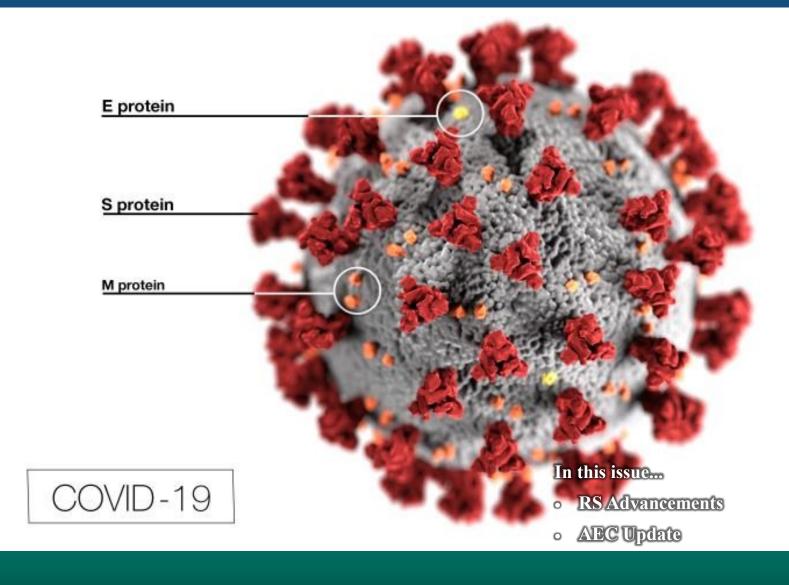
Ohio Journal of

Environmental Health

1st Quarter 2021





The object and purpose of the Association shall be the betterment of the health and welfare of mankind through the improvement of the environment. This shall be done by sponsoring state and regional meetings and publications, by developing methods of measuring and evaluating achievements in environmental health, the establishment of a central point of reference and education material for the membership, the procurement of cooperation with other agencies and organizations, and such other activities as will lead to the greater efficiency and professional growth of the membership.

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Volume 70 Number 1 1st Quarter 2021

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Editor's Note:

The COVID-19 pandemic continues in 2021. Public Health/Environmental Health continues to provide an unpresented response. We thank you all for your tireless effort to protect the health of all Ohioans

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President's Message

Stephan Ruckman, RS, MPH Ohio Environmental Health Association President 2020-2021

Welcome to Spring 2021. In many ways this Spring will be like Spring of 2020, but with a silver lining. Last year at this time we were cast into a series of unknowns. Many of these



unknowns. Many of these unknowns still exist, but we are seeing many positive things happen. Covid vaccines are being distributed throughout the state and numbers of covid cases are on the decline. This is thanks much in part to the work that local public health professionals are doing throughout Ohio. And, a large part of those public health professionals are OEHA members that have exited their traditional environmental public health roles for over a year to help protect the public from covid 19. My hope is

that appreciation is being shown for this effort throughout your community and by your employer. Please know that your Board of Directors appreciates all you've done and is thankful to have you as a member.

While 2020 might have seemed to put time in a vacuum there was still much going on in the General Assembly and the Board of Directors worked closely with Hick's Partners to assure member interests were considered in all that was introduced. We recently shared the following summary of changes from legislation on our website, but I would also like to include it in this quarter's President's message because I think it's important to highlight.

Two bills that have direct impact on OEHA members that passed and were signed by Governor DeWine are HB 404 and



HB 442. Below you will find a summary of each of these bills as it impacts OEHA members. It is important to note that the OEHA Board of Directors and Hicks Partners worked hard to make sure that member interests were considered.

H.B. 404

H.B. 404 (https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-404) was signed by Governor DeWine and enacted under an emergency on November 22, 2020. The bill impacts include:

- HB 404 extends license expiration dates until July 1, 2021 for any license in the state as the definition includes any "license, permit, certificate, commission, charter, registration, card, or other similar authority that is issued or conferred by a state agency, political subdivision, or official of a political subdivision."
- It is important to note that this affects Food Service and Retail Food Establishment renewals. We are still awaiting clarification

- on Pool and Campground renewals. The definition of license includes permits and certificates including contractor registrations at the State level.
- OEHA will continue to work with State partners to get clarification on implementation of this Act.

H.B. 442

H.B. 442 (https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA133-HB-442) was signed by Governor DeWine on January 8, 2021 and will be in effect on April 12, 2021. The bill impacts include:

- Changes the professional title of "sanitarian -in-training" and "registered sanitarian" to "environmental health specialist in training" (EHST) and "registered environmental health specialist" (REHS), respectively (R.C. Chapter 4736 and makes conforming changes).
- Removes the requirement that the Director of Health create and conduct EHST and REHS registration examinations, and



- instead requires an REHS or EHST registration applicant to pass the credential examination conducted by the National Environmental Health Association (R.C. 4736.02, 4736.03, 4736.08, 4736.09, and 4736.10).
- Removes the requirement that an REHS applicant be of good moral character (R.C. 4736.08).
- Extends the period of validity of EHST and REHS certificates of registration from one year to two years (R.C. 4736.11).
- Requires an REHS to complete a continuing education program every two years (instead of every year) (R.C. 4736.11).
- Specifies that an REHS must complete 24 hours of continuing education (instead of an amount determined by the Director that is between six and 25 hours) (R.C. 4736.11).
 - Previously was set at 18 hours annually
- Reduces specified registration application and renewal fees for REHSs and EHSTs (R.C. 4736.12).

- REHS: Change licensure fees from \$160 initial fee and \$90 renewal fee to \$100 initial fee and \$75 renewal fee.
- EHS-IT: Change licensure fees from \$80 initial fee and \$90 renewal fee to \$50 initial fee and \$35 renewal fee.

The Board of Directors and Technical Committee Chairs continue to work closely with our State partners to clarify implementation of the provisions above. We are also reviewing the provisions of the State of Ohio budget and making sure member interests are considered. Members can reach out to any Board Member for further information on legislative efforts of the association and how it impacts the state of environmental public health in Ohio. The Board of Directors is committed to providing a voice for our membership before, during, and after passage of legislation. We are thankful for the input of membership, the dedication of our technical committee



chairs and previous Board Members, and Hick's Partners for all their hard work.

Next. I want to discuss our educational efforts. If you recall in my last message I reported that we would be forgoing an in person annual educational conference in lieu of a virtual AEC. I am pleased to report that Vice President Matt Tyler and the AEC Planning Committee are in the stages of finalizing this virtual AEC and it will likely occur later this Spring. The Board of Directors decided in December to continue to plan on conducting our Fall 2021 District Educational Conferences. We are also hoping to schedule an Annual meeting at some point in the year to conduct necessary Association business. Please continue to monitor the Ohio Environmental Health Association website at www.ohioeha.org for details on all of this as well as other online training opportunities as they arise.

The Board of Directors continues to be very mindful of recommendations to keep everyone safe and healthy during the pandemic. Therefore, we have continued to limit our board meetings to every other month and have conducted our meetings in a manner that allows for social distancing. The need for in person meetings is to handle business necessary to the operation of the association and to provide recommendations on critical legislative issues. Unfortunately, our current Constitution and Bylaws do not permit us to meet via zoom, conference call, or any remote manner for official business as stated in my previous president's messages. As mentioned above, we are planning on an Annual Meeting of the entire association later this Summer. We hope to conduct elections for vacant positions at that time and will move forward accordingly. There will also be necessary changes suggested for the OEHA Bylaws. These changes will be voted on at the 2021 Annual Meeting as well and will relate to the ability for the Board of Directors to meet and vote via teleconference

or video conference during emergencies.

I'm asked quite often about the benefits of OEHA membership. I believe two of the major benefits are highlighted in this message. The efforts and successes we've had this past year in legislation and the future planned educational opportunities are what make this association great! Spring offers promise of new things! I'm hopeful that this Spring we will continue on a path of seeing positive developments related to Covid 19 and a return to more normalcy in our personal and professional lives. I'm quite certain that many of you are functioning as scribes, traffic control, and whatever is needed for Covid Vaccine Clinics at the moment. And, I'm certain you are shining and representing the environmental public health profession well. For that I say keep up the great work, thank you, and continue to stay strong! And, unitl we are able to meet again in person remind one another of the critical role you play today and that you will play in the future to keep the public healthy and safe!



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Featured District Director's Message: Northwest

Brittany Zoecklein, REHS Delaware Public Health District



I have never been good at introductions. How do you describe your life and career in just 1 page? If I've somehow managed to grab your attention this far, here goes nothing.

My name is Brittany Zoecklein and I am a Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) at the Delaware Public Health District (DPHD) and this is my first year as the Northwest District Director of OEHA.

Where did I begin with my passion to work in public health? Many of you who know me know that I love to tell my story of how Public Health was my chosen career. Sounds cheesy, right? It most definitely is.

I graduated from OSU with a degree in Natural Resources. After my graduation, the hiring pool for a position in natural resources was very slim and I did not qualify for the available positions as I had no experience. So, I decided to expand my search within the realm of public health. Pickaway was looking for a Registered Environmental Sanitarian (RS) and even though I had no idea what was required of an RS, I was willing and desperate to take a chance. Unfortunately, I was not offered the position that I had applied for but the director at the time gave me pointers on where to look for jobs and encouraged me to join this organization and others like it such as NEHA. But I became discouraged and stopped looking for Job openings within this field.

Then, one day the director called to inform me of an open position as a temporary mosquito intern that would be beneficial to getting my foot in the door. I accepted the offer and began my environmental health career in

Pickaway County as their Mosquito intern. I loved being a mosquito intern which led to me to becoming an SIT. I learned food, wells, nuisances, aerators and all the



programs there. In Pickaway, you are a jack of all trades Sanitarian and each day was refreshingly different. I developed a passion for this field immediately, making it bittersweet when I took a new position outside of Pickaway. The county where it all started, where someone took a chance on me.

Delaware Public Health District was an opportunity that came during an exceedingly difficult time in my life personally and the location was much closer to my home (commute going from 1 hr to 25 min). The DPHD job opportunity was another steppingstone that came into my life at just the perfect time, much like everything else thus far. Currently, I am in Delaware and I LOVE what I do. How many people can say that as their chosen career? I truly enjoy what I do, and I am grateful to work for an amazing company as I enjoy educating the public.

This is where things get cheesy. Did you bring your crackers? I genuinely believe I was meant for the REHS field and here is the main reason why. When I was moving several years after college, after I got the SIT job in Pickaway, I found a box in my closet with some high school papers. One of the documents found within that box was this career test I took in High School. I have no idea why I kept it, but I looked it over, interested in what it said (7 or so years later). It said Food Inspector as my tested chosen career. I was so shocked. I

instantly remembered getting that result in school and thinking "I don't want to do that". Yet here I am 11 years later doing exactly what those test results gave me and loving what I do.

I got more involved with OEHA while working at DPHD. I have several colleagues who are actively involved with this organization which really encouraged me to become more involved as well. I started going to conferences and networking with people around the state. I started getting actively involved by taking over the SIT prep course at the Annual Educational Conference.

I was nominated to become the NW District Director at the NW conference. I was honored and nervous to take on such a big role with a small amount of experience. I was calmed knowing that I had a year to shadow before actively becoming the district director. Then...COVID. My year of observing turned into a year of many changes and no conferences. I have learned that you only get out of it, what you put in. I continue to work extremely hard to do the best job with anything

I am involved in. As NW District Director, I am constantly learning and hoping to be the best I can be within this role. I hope that this opportunity that I have been given inspires future REHS's to join this organization and even consider becoming a director.

As the NW District Director, I have been able to attend board meetings and hear all the proposed bills that pertain to our field and to be a part of change. True change to our field that affects us all. I was in the meeting when our title was changed to REHS from RS which was extremely exciting to witness and be a part of.

This fall we are hoping to kick off conferences and get together again to share stories and network, they may just look slightly different. I hope to get OEHA out there and get people more involved with us and see the benefit being in this organization can bring.

So, there it is, that is me in a nutshell or a small book would be a better analogy. I hope to meet many of you at conference and I look forward to seeing our organization grow.



Recognizing Ohio's Newest Registered Sanitarians

In this section we recognized those individuals we successfully met the standards to earn the title Registered Sanitarian in the State of Ohio. This year we congratulate the following who achieved the statue of Registered Sanitarian from January 1, 2020—December 31, 2020.

- RS003924 Jessica Beike
- RS003925 Sanimma Ouedraogo
- RS003922 Madison Lotz
- RS003923 Antonino Majoy
- RS003920 Ryan Tristano
- RS003921 Kendra Wise
- RS003918 Megan Davis
- RS003919 Joshua Naticchia
- RS003916 Mariah Denzik
- RS003914 Benjamin Ginter
- RS003915 MacKenzie Newlun
- RS003913 Alan Masters
- RS003912 Luke Stoll
- RS003911 Angela Raderchak
- RS003909 Matthew Schutte
- RS003910 Eric Wyant
- RS003907 Sarah Fink
- RS003908 Brianna Rante
- RS003906 Meredith Garman
- RS003905 Paul Ithenya
- RS003903 Joseph Bihn

- RS003904 Beth Frizzell
- RS003902 Tomas Perler-Tomboly
- RS003901 William Duck
- RS003899 Heather Justice
- RS003900 Jessica Savoie
- RS003898 Abraham Ewais
- RS003895 Colin McCloskey
- RS003896 Ian McKenzie
- RS003897 Lauren Patrick
- RS003894 Amanda Zeigler
- RS003893 Anne Wells
- RS003892 Jason Kinkel
- RS003891 Julia DeNiro
- RS003888 Diana Heitmeyer
- RS003889 Shannon Jaworski
- RS003890 Mike Scaroleta
- RS003887 Andrew Bull
- RS003886 Bryan Lynch
- RS003879 Tiera Clay
- RS003884 Christine Propes
- RS003881 Anne Lustig
- RS003885 Jodi Taylor
- RS003880 Thomas Creasap
- RS003882 Andrew Maughan
- RS003883 Saba Osloobi
- RS003878 Leah Binsack



Kent State RS/REHS Exam Preparation Course

Kent State University will now offer a Registered Sanitarian/Registered Environmental Health Specialist Exam Preparation Course for environmental health professional trainees to help prepare them for their national credentialing exam.

Registered Environmental Health Specialists, sometimes also referred to as Registered Sanitarians, are the professionals who staff environmental health, safety and environmental protection regulatory programs in federal, state and local governments and industry.

The course is free for College of Public Health alumni, easing the pathway for recent graduates to become registered sanitarians in health departments and other agencies and businesses where they are employed.

Matthew Stefanak, retired Mahoning County Health Commissioner and Ambassador for the College of Public Health, retired Akron Health Department Deputy Health Director Michael Smylie, and College of Public Health Manager of Instructional Design Dr. Sasikumar Benzigar created the prep course to align it with the national credentialing exam offered by the National Environmental Health Association.

"For many of our graduates, environmental health is their entry into the public health profession that employs individuals with diverse backgrounds. We want to make sure they will be ready to enter the workforce and be successful," Stefanak said. The course will feature narrated lectures, learning resources, and practice exam questions that cover all content areas.

The course is free to all College of Public Health alumni. The fee for non-alumni is \$195. The course can be accessed at this link: https://kentstate.augusoft.net/index.cfm? method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id= 30437&int_category_id=6&int_sub_category_id=7 5&int_catalog_id=7

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The New Standard in Surface Sanitizers.





Formulated for food-contact surfaces with no rinse required. No precautionary statements or handwashing required.



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2021 AEC

OEHA AEC 2021

For a second year in a row, OEHA has been forced to cancel our Annual Education Conference. While we would all like to meet together in person it wasn't safe to do so just yet. However, we will provide some CEU opportunities. Current OEHA members will have access to all of the pre-recorded presentations on various topics starting in May 2021 through the end of August for members. These presentations are similar to the kind of sessions you would see at AEC. Members will be able to access the links to the presentations after signing in to the OEHA website and paying a \$40.00 fee (only with a credit card). After viewing the presentations, a fillable verification form will be used to obtain the CEUs.

Most of these videos will be anywhere from 30-60 minutes. Presenters have offered to send presentations on the topics of food safety, sewage, disaster debris management, OEMA Covid

response, vectors (flies), air quality (water systems), Covid (respiratory protection) and two SIT preparatory/review presentations on food and sewage. We hope OEHA members will be able to fulfill their CEU requirements and gain a little knowledge. The OEHA AEC Planning Committee hopes to begin planning the next in-person conference later this year!



FDA Food Code Section 4.703.11 (B)

"achieving a UTENSIL surface temperature of 71°C (160°F) as measured by an irreversible registering temperature indicator"

The FDA Requires a Dish Temperature of **71°C/160°F**



Announcements

Have a grant, educational opportunity, move, promotion, or other announcement you would like to share? Please email a member of the publications committee.

Open Positions (With an opening of 4/25/21)

- Sanitarian/SIT Logan County Health District
- Sanitarian/SIT Henry County Health Department
- Mosquito Control Program Seasonal Intern Ottawa County Health Department
- Sanitarian/SIT Knox Public Health
- Sanitarian/SIT
 Delaware Public Health District
- Environmental Health Specialist-in-Training Darke County General Health District

- Registered Environmental Health Specialist Dark County General Health District
- Sanitarian
 Pickaway County Public Health
- Sanitarian/SITHamilton County Public Health
- Sanitarian
 Marion Public Health

News, Information, and Education

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Campground

Mark Janowich, R.S. - Erie County Health Department

Food

Christina Ritchey Wilson, JD, R.S. - Columbus Public Health

Greg Chumney, MPH, RS - Licking County Health Department

Lead

Greg Putka, R.S. - Lorain County Public Health

Private Water Systems

Randy Ruszkowski, R.S. - Stark County Health Department

Sewage

Laura Kramer Kuns, R.S., REHS - Kramer Kuns Consulting, LLC

Eric Cherry, R.S.—Huron County Public Health

Solid Waste

Chuck De Jonckheere, R.S. - Hamilton County Public Health

Swimming Pool, Spa, and Special Use Pool

Barry Grisez, R.S. - Cuyahoga County Board of Health

Vector Control

Scott Pozna, R.S. - Lorain County Health Department

Archives

Melissa Adams, R.S. - Delaware Public Health District

Constitution & By-laws

Ken Sharkey, R.S., MPH - Cleveland Department of Public Health

Exhibits

Shannon Self, R.S. - Delaware Public Health District

Professional Development

Steve Ruckman, MPH, R.S. - Worthington Schools

Resolutions

Jennifer Wentzel, MPH, R.S. - Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

Website

Garrett Guillozet, MPA, R.S., REHS, AEMT - Ross County Health District

Auditing

Jennifer Wentzel, MPH, R.S. - Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

Awards & Recognition

Gus Dria, R.S., REHS - Canton City Health Department

George Eagle Scholarship

Jacqueline A. Gruza, BS, RS, REHS, MPH - Greene County Public Health

Membership

Adam R. Howard, MPH, R.S., REHS - Delaware Public Health District

Nominations & Elections

Open

Public Affairs

Stephan Ruckman, MPH, R.S. - Worthington Schools

Publications

Adam R. Howard, MPH, R.S., REHS - Delaware Public Health District

Concentrated Animal Feed Facility

Jason Menchhofer, R.S. - Mercer County - Celina City Health Department

Ohio Public Health Advisory Board

Garrett Guillozet, MPA, R.S., REHS, AEMT - Ross County Health District

Ohio Public Health Partnership

Chad Brown, R.S., REHS, MPH - Licking County Health Department

Sewage Treatment System Technical Advisory Committee

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